

U. S. Department of Justice

(MATERIAL MUST NOT BE REMOVED FROM OR ADDED TO THIS FILE)

FEDERAL BUREAU

DO NOT DESTROY - PENDING LITIGATION
Py 2012 of

INVESTIGATION

Bureau File Number 44-38861

~~DO NOT DESTROY - PENDING LITIGATION~~~~PLH 1487~~ dismissed
4/2/80

See also Nos.

See Sep 1A Section

DO NOT DESTROY - PRESERVE FOR SELECT
COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONSMorgo 7/29/76
Buc 7/27/74
Hartingh 8/3/74
Rec
Montegar 5/12/69

CLASSIFICATION NO.

157-3231

Volume Number

4

Serials 437

thru - 500

See
current
Volume

Date: May 9, 1968

Transmit the following in _____

Via Airtel _____

(Type in plaintext or code)

(Priority)

To: All SACS
LEGATS, Mexico City
Ottawa

From: Director, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN
OO: MEMPHIS (44-1987)

In order to cover the possibility that subject may have died since commission of the crime, the U. S. Census Bureau and Department of Health, Education and Welfare were contacted and they advised that no central records of unidentified deceased are maintained by those agencies. It was suggested that each state may maintain such a record in their Bureau of Vital Statistics or similar agency.

There is no known Federal law requiring the maintenance of such information; and it is possible that if any record of unidentified dead is maintained, it would only be maintained at local police departments, morgues, medical facilities, or the like.

Each office covering state capitals should check to ascertain if such records are maintained, and if so, should check records for the period from 4-5-68, to date, for any information which might possibly identify subject Ray with unidentified deceased person over that period.

If there is no central record repository maintained in the various states or nationally in the case of Mexico and Canada, you should, in connection with your contacts with law enforcement agencies on this case or other Bureau matters, make appropriate inquiries relative to

157-3531-433

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 11 1968	
FBI - TAMPA	

Kabradie

Sent Via _____ M

Per old for headquarters

Airtel to All SACS and LEGATS, Mexico City and ~~Ottawa~~
RE: MURKIN

comprised deceased prints with I.O. on Ray + nothing ident
tom Ogletree - none
unidentified dead for the period beginning 4-5-68; and if
fingerprints on such dead are maintained, they should be
compared with those on the Identification Order on Ray
in order to effect identification or nonidentification.
This should be handled in the normal course of business
and only reasonable investigation should be pursued
along these lines.

*deceased prints
OK compared
with Ray -
all negative
J.B. Phillips*
The Identification Division has placed an appropriate
stop on unidentified deceased inquiries it may receive.
If feasible, appropriate offices and Legats, Mexico City
and Ottawa should place similar stops with appropriate
state, local or national agencies in your territories.

Armed and Dangerous.

F B I

Date: May 10, 1968

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via Airtel _____
(Priority)

To: All SACS
LEGATS, Mexico City
Ottawa

From: Director, FBI

MURKIN

For your information and investigative assistance, subject James Earl Ray took a bartending course in Los Angeles, California, during the early part of 1968, and prior to his departing Los Angeles, in March of 1968, he made several telephone calls to country clubs in an effort to obtain employment.

This should be borne in mind in covering leads in connection with this and other cases.

Armed and Dangerous.

437
157-3231-434

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 15 1968	
FBI - TAMPA	

Salvador

Sent Via _____ M Per _____

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC TAMPA 157-323-1

DATE: 5/9/68

FROM : SA James R. Ryan

SUBJECT: MURKIN
RM

On 5/8/68 Mrs Edward West 974 Fay Blvd. Port St. John
Fla. advised that while driving along US#1 south toward Cocoa
Fla. she noticed a man who was driving a 1958 dark maroon
Pontiac sports coupe. She stated this man seemed familiar to her
but at the time she could not recall where she had seen him. She
advised this was approximately mid-morning 5/7/68.

She advised on 5/8/68 she saw the latest photograph of
James Earl Ray in the local newspaper and noted he strongly
resembled the aforementioned man who was driving the 1958 Pontiac.
She could recall nothing about this man other than he had a sharp
pointed nose and was wearing a sport shirt.

Concerning the car she recalled it had a wide chrome band
~~across~~ across the back of the front seat. She did not recall seeing
the license tag and had no idea as to what state issued the tag.

Mrs. Edward West advised he did not notice the above mentioned
Pontiac and had no information about its driver. 157-323-137

Mrs. Edward West stated the last ^{time} she saw the Pontiac it was
headed south on US#1 out of Cocoa Fla. She could furnish no
other information.

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 14 1968	
FBI - TAMPA	

In the conversation that followed Chas. Nielsen writer and Mrs. West it became apparent that she was a highly nervous individual who considered herself an amateur detective of sort. In view of this and the ambiguous nature of the information she furnished no further action is being taken.

Cover Sheet for Informant Report or Material
FD-306 (3-21-58)

Date received 4/15, 29/68	Received from (name or symbol number) TP 221-R	Received by SA THOMAS C. ALLEN
Method of delivery (check appropriate blocks) ☒ in person ☐ by telephone ☐ by mail ☒ orally ☐ recording device ☐ written by Informant		
If orally furnished and reduced to writing by Agent: Dictated <u>5/5/68</u> to <u>dictabelt by Agent N. Hopkins</u> Transcribed <u>5/7/68</u> Authenticated by Informant <u>NA</u>		Date of Report 4/15, 29/68 Date(s) of activity 4/9/68
Brief description of activity or material <u>Special meeting of Unit 12, UKA, Orlando, Fla.; 53 present.</u>		File where original is located if not attached 170-75A-129

Remarks:

COPIES:

- 1 - 157-2868 (Unit 12)
- 1 - 157-3103 (Ocoee)
- 1 - 157- (FNU MARTIN)
- 1 - 157-3231 (MURKIN)
- 1 - 157-1489 Sub 3 (Poss. Rac. Viol.)

ATTENDED ONLY:

- 1 - 157- (Bill Phigpen)
- 1 - 157-2923 (Jones)
- 1 - 157-1464 (Stevenson)
- 1 - 157-2303 (Marek)
- 1 - 157-2130 (Hancock)
- 1 - 157-3077 (Pearch)
- 1 - 157-2490 (Kiernan)
- 1 - 157-2974 (Singletary)
- 1 - 157-3070 (Dye)
- 1 - 157-2965 (Wells)
- 1 - 157-3160 (Griffin)
- 1 - 157-3128 (Len White)

TCA:nh
(18) *[initials]*

USE REGISTERED MAIL

ACTION:

- 1. Info channelized to pertinent files.

Block Stamp

157-3231-439

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 7 1968	
FBI - TAMPA	

4/15/68

4/29/68

On 4/9/68, Unit 12, United Klans of America, Inc. (UKA), Orlando, Fla., held a special meeting at the Klavern starting at about 7:45 PM, with approximately 53 persons present, including 7 UKA members from the Ocoee area, and 2 members of the former Florida Pioneer Club.

Those present included the following:

Bill Phigpen, Exalted Cyclops, Ocoee
Elbert Stevenson, Ocoee Unit
FNU Martin, who is employed by the Orlando Utilities
Company and is attached to the Ocoee group

E. R. Jones
Bob Pearch
Bud Marek
Bill Hancock
Mr. Kiernan
Mike Singletary
James Dye
Jack Wells
William Griffin and 2 sons, names not known
Len White

Jones and Marek did most of the talking at the meeting and the discussion concerned the recent killing of Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. According to Jones and Marek, trouble was expected in the streets of the cities of this country anywhere and everywhere, as a result of the King killing and the Negroes were suppose to, as a result of this killing, foment race riots.

Plans were worked out among Unit 12 so that only one person in eight of the local members would know their Klan's plan of action in event of trouble in Orlando area. This one individual would then contact eight members and pass on the word to them.

In spite of all the discussion of race, rioting and killing, at the meeting, three members of Unit 12 were instructed to go home following the meeting and it is believed that they did so.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:15 PM.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC TAMPA (137-1632)-47

FROM : SA A. LEWIS BARNETT

SUBJECT: TP 339-C

DATE: 5/14/68

☒ CI ☐ SI

☐ PCI ☐ PSI

☐

Dates of Contact:

5/2/68

Titles and File #s on which contacted

157-3231 (MURKIN)162-164 (GAMBLING PARAPHERNALIA)157-3241 (POOR PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN)157-1489 S 2 (POSSIBLE RACIAL VIOLENCE)

Purpose and results of contact

☒ NEGATIVE☒ POSITIVE

Case agent advised of negative contact by R/S.

157-3231

Source was furnished a photograph of JAMES EARL RAY and requested to contact writer immediately should any information concerning RAY come to his attention.

157-3241

Source advised that he has read of the Poor People's Campaign in the papers; however, he knows of no one from Lee County who plans to participate in the march.

157-1489

Source advised that there are plenty of jobs

☒ Informant certified that he has furnished all information obtained by him since last contact.

Rating

GOOD

Coverage

SAME

Personal Data

1 cc to each above files

ALB:nh
(5)

REGISTERED MAIL

157-3231-480

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
MAY 15 1968	
FBI - TAMPA	

K. B. Barnett

TP 137-1632

for Negroes who want to work in Lee County and that he expects no racial violence in the area.

FD-306 (3-21-58)

Date received 5-8-68	Received from (name or symbol number) TP 222-R	Received by SA THOMAS C. ALLEN
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Method of delivery (check appropriate blocks)

☐ in person ☐ by telephone ☒ by mail ☐ orally ☐ recording device ☒ written by Informant

If orally furnished and reduced to writing by Agent:

Date

Dictated _____ to _____

Transcribed _____

Authenticated
by Informant _____

Date of Report

April 4, 1968

Date(s) of activity

April 4, 1968

Brief description of activity or material

Special meeting of Unit 12, UKA, as result
of shooting of King. 18 present.

File where original is located if not attached

170-69A-463

Remarks:

COPIES:

1: 157-2868 (Unit 12)
1: 157-3231 (Markin)

ACTION:**ATTENDED ONLY:**

1: 157-2923 (Jones)
1: 157-2965 (Wells)
1: 157-2303 (Marek)
1: 157-3077 (Pearch)
1: 157-2919 (Pegram)
1: 157-3128 (L. White)
1: 157-3240 (Hill)
1: 157-3146 (Burleson)
1: 157-1776 (Haas)
1: 157 (Jack Booth)
1: 157-3151 (Fry)
1: 157-0-800 (Smith)
1: 157-1464 (Stevenson)
1: 157-2974 (Singletary)
1: 157-2490 (Kiernan)
1: 157-3160 (Griffin)

1: 157-2479 (Walling)
1: 157-3077 (Butch Pearch)

Info channelized to pertinent files.

(21)
TCA:

USE RM

Block Stamp

157-3231 - 441

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 15 1968	
FBI - TAMPA	

4 APRIL 1968

SPECIAL MEETING UNIT 12 U.K.A
CALLED FOR 10 P.M. AT THE KLAVERN
REASON - EVENTS IN MEMPHIS.

ED JONES	GEORGE FRY
JACK WELLS	EDWARD SMITH
BUD MAREK	ELBERT STEVENSON
BOB PEARETT	MIKE SINKETARY
TOM PEAREM	MR. KEARNAN
LEONARD WHITE	MR. GRIFFIN
JACK HILL	WAYNE WALLINGS
BURKISON	BUTCH PEARETT
EARNEST HASS	
JACK BOOTH	

ED JONES WAS EXTREMELY EXCITED
AND WANTED EVERYONE TO REPORT
TO THE KLAVERN AND TO STAND BY
FOR TROUBLE. BUD MAREK TOOK THE
FLOOR AND ADVISED AGAINST THE
FLAY OVER RE-ACTING TO THE DEATH
OF KING. HE SUGGESTED NO FURTHER
WILSON HALL

ACTION BE TAKEN. HE SUGGESTED
IF EVERYONE WOULD MAINTAIN AN
AIR OF CALM THEY WOULD BE OF
MORE SERVICE TO THEIR COMMUNITY

JOHN WANTS A 24 HOUR GUARD AT
THE KLAVERN BUT AGREES TO GO ALONG
WITH MAREK'S ADVISE.

MIKE SINGLETARY CONTRIBUTES THE
USE OF HIS TRAILER FOR THE RALLY.

MEET FINAL LEAVE ROUNDS AT
3:35 P.M. -

Wilson Hall

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, TAMPA (157-3231) (P)

DATE: 5/15/68

FROM : SUPVR. #4

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR
(OO:ME)

The Bureau has advised that subject spent a considerable sum of money from 4/23/67 to 4/4/68, and the source of this money has not been determined. In view of this, photograph of JAMES EARL RAY, aka should be displayed at once to appropriate witnesses in unsolved BRs and BBs in those instances where witnesses are available.

Also consideration should be given to requesting police departments to display photograph of JAMES EARL RAY to witnesses in their unsolved robberies.

Insofar as the leads to handle unsolved BRs in Tampa and Polk County, SA CARO in headquarters is handling same. It is to be noted that only the Orlando RA has an unsolved BR and the Ft. Myers RA has an unsolved BB.

In view of the above, Agents who receive a copy of this memo should take the action indicated above. SRAs receiving same should assign Agents to contact appropriate PDs to solicit their cooperation to show photographs of JAMES EARL RAY to witnesses in their unsolved robberies. It should be noted that major PDs and SOs should be contacted in this regard.

- 2 - 157-3231
- 1 - SA CARO
- 1 - SA BALL
- 1 - SA RITCHEY
- 1 - SA HAFLEY
- 1 - SA GARNER
- 1 - SA BRUMBLE
- 1 - SA R. C. SMITH
- 1 - SA BARNETT
- 1 - SA VANCE

LEB:cj
(11)

*5/16/68
T.D.O.
Capt. Jim Downum
Asbury
H.C.S.O.
Inspector John Smith*

157-3231-442

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
MAY 15 1968	
FBI - TAMPA	

Kubodice

handle for headquarters



5010-108

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, TAMPA (157-3231)

FROM : SA WILLIAM K. GARNER, JR.

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR

DATE: 5/31/68

ReSuper. #4 memo, 5/15/68.

The following law enforcement agencies in Polk County, Florida have been contacted and advised to consider JAMES EARL RAY as a suspect in any armed robberies which are unsolved:

1. Polk County Sheriff's Office
2. Haines City PD
3. Winter Haven PD
4. Lakeland PD

These are the only departments in Polk County which investigate felonies occurring in their own communities.

wkg
2

157-3231-442-A

file w/

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 1 1968	
FBI - TAMPA	

Libby
Dayle



5010-108

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

5/17/68

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

44-38861

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM: SAC, TAMPA (157-3231)(P)
MURKIN

Re Miami teletype to Tampa, 5/14/68.

Re SUSPECT, BARBER SHOP, SANFORD, FLORIDA

AT SANFORD, FLORIDA

On 5/14/68, Mr. E. A. FLEMING, owner Fleming's Supermarket, E. Geneva Avenue, Sanford, Florida, advised that while getting a haircut at Garfield's Barber Shop, known as The Gator Barber Shop, he observed an individual who closely resembled the person whose picture he saw in the Sanford paper on 5/13/68. FLEMING said this person drove up to the barber shop in a Yellow Cab, and he overheard the person say he was a former cab driver in New York City. He said the person is not a native of Sanford.

Fleming said that this person had his hair cut by a barber who is tall and wears dark-rim glasses.

HAROLD SANDVILL, Barber, Gator Barber Shop, advised that he recalls cutting the hair of a Yellow Cab driver around noon on 5/13/68. SANDVILL was shown photos of JAMES EARL RAY, and stated that this person is definitely not the person whose hair he cut.

- 3 - Bureau
- 2 - Memphis (44-1987)
- 1 - Birmingham (Info) (44-1740)
- 1 - Miami (44-2884) (Info)

2 - Tampa

SJL:ega

(8) *aga*

SEARCHED _____

INDEXED _____

SERIALIZED *CP*

FILED *CP*

157-3231-443

TP 157-3231

on 5/13/68. He stated he does not believe he has ever seen RAY.

On 5/14/68, JEWELL CARL, dispatcher, Yellow Cab Company, Sanford, Florida, advised that the only driver working for her company who is not a native of Sanford is one DALLAS THOMPSON. She said THOMPSON is from Huntington, W. Va., and has been working here for approximately four months. He said the photos of JAMES EARL RAY is definitely not identical with THOMPSON.

On 5/14/68, CHARLES COLLIER, owner, Yellow Cab Company, advised that the photos of RAY are not identical with THOMPSON or any other of his employees. He checked his records and advised they indicate THOMPSON worked from 6:00PM 4/4/68 until 6:00 AM 4/5/68.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC TAMPA (137-1827)-37

FROM : SA A. LEWIS BARNETT

SUBJECT: JOSEPH C. BAKER

DATE: 5/17/68

☐ CI ☐ SI

☒ PCI ☐ PSI

☐

Dates of Contact

5/9/68

Titles and File #s on which contacted

162-164 (GAMBLING PARAPHERNALIA)

166-325 (ALTAMA LAMAR REDMON)

157-3231 (MURKIN)

Purpose and results of contact

☒ NEGATIVE☐ POSITIVE162-164

Source stated there is no organized gambling in the Fort Myers area or he would know of it.

166-325

Source stated he had learned that REDMON had returned to the Fort Myers area on Tuesday, May 7, 1968, picked up his wife, and left for South Carolina. Source stated that his wife taught school in Florida until the recent teachers' strike and was not rehired following the strike. He stated she may teach in South Carolina, but he knows of no plans for her to do so. Source stated that subject would probably be staying in the Atlantic Beach area of South Carolina.

☒ Informant certified that he has furnished all information obtained by him since last contact.

Rating

VERY GOOD

Coverage

SAME

Personal Data

1 cc to each above file

ALB:nh
(4)

REGISTERED MAIL

157-3231-444

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 20 1968	
Labatt	

TP 137-1827

157-3231

Source was shown a photograph of JAMES EARL RAY,
but could furnish no information concerning him.

FBI TAMPA

FBI MIAMI

1005 PM URGENT 5/18/68 RML

TO DIRECTOR, TAMPA LOS ANGELES, AND MEMPHIS
FROM MIAMI (44-1854)

MURKIN. CR.

RE LOS ANGELES TEL TO DIRECTOR, MAY SEVENTEEN LAST; MIAMI
TEL TO DIRECTOR, MAY EIGHTEEN INSTANT; AND LOS ANGELES TEL TO DIRECTOR
MAY EIGHTEEN INSTANT.

BENJAMIN LARNARD THOMPSON, JR., MIAMI, ADVISED THAT HIS FATHER,
BENJAMIN LARNARD THOMPSON, SR., DIED NOVEMBER, SIXTYSEVEN, AND THAT
HIS FATHER HAD BEEN SEMI-RETIRED SINCE NINETEEN FIFTYFOUR FROM COMMER-
CIAL FISHING AFTER SUSTAINING HEART CONDITION.

THOMPSON ADVISED HE HAS BEEN EMPLOYED WITH AERODEX, MIAMI, SINCE
MARCH, SIXTYSEVEN, AND HAS BEEN ON THE THREE PM - MIDNIGHT SHIFT SINCE
JANUARY, NINETEEN SIXTYEIGHT.

THOMPSON ADVISED HE WAS NOT OUT OF MIAMI AREA DURING THE PERIOD
APRIL THREE THROUGH TWELVE LAST, AND WAS WORKING AT AERODEX DURING THIS
PERIOD.

THOMPSON ADVISED HE FORMERLY WORKED AS COMMERCIAL FISHERMAN FOR
EAST COAST FISHERIES, MIAMI, FLA., AND PRIOR TO AUGUST, NINETEEN SIXTY-
SIX, HE HAD OWNED THREE SEPARATE BOATS DURING VARIOUS INTERVALS IN
THE PAST FIVE YEARS IN WHICH HE FISHED OFF FLORIDA KEYS, MOSTLY FOR
LOBSTERS.

END PAGE ONE

*Belange advised
10:15 - 5/18/68
AS*

*Bureau advised 9:00 AM
5/19/68 Jb
lead*

157-3237-495

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 18 1968	
FBI - TAMPA	

Bureau

MM 44-1854

PAGE TWO

THOMPSON STATED APPROXIMATELY FOUR YEARS AGO HE WAS ARRESTED BY BRITISH GOVT. FOR FISHING IN BAHAMIAN WATERS. HIS ARREST RECEIVED A GREAT DEAL OF PUBLICITY IN MIAMI NEWSPAPERS.

THOMPSON ADVISED HE WAS OUT OF STATE OF FLA. ONCE DURING HIS ENTIRE LIFETIME, THAT BEING DURING HIGH SCHOOL WHEN HE VISITED NEW YORK CITY.

HE EMPHATICALLY DENIED ANY KNOWLEDGE REGARDING THIS MATTER AND NEVER HEARD OF THE NAMES WILBURN, PIERCE OR KNEW ANYONE WHO OWNED MOTEL OR AIRPLANE.

THOMPSON ADVISED IT WAS COMPLETE MYSTERY TO HIM AS TO HOW HIS NAME WAS BEING UTILIZED IN THIS MATTER.

HE STATED THAT HE HAD A RELATIVE WHO IS A COMMERCIAL FISHERMAN IN MARATHON, FLA., BY THE NAME OF RONNY PIERCE, AGE THIRTY FIVE.

ROBERT OPP, SECURITY OFFICER, AERODEX, MIAMI, ADVISED THAT ALL PERSONNEL RECORDS AND TIME CARDS AT AERODEX WILL BE UNAVAILABLE UNTIL MORNING OF MAY TWENTY NEXT.

CITY DIRECTORIES, MARATHON, AND KEY WEST, FLA., NEGATIVE RE BENJAMIN THOMPSON. KEY WEST CITY DIRECTORY NEGATIVE RE RONALD PIERCE. MARATHON CITY DIRECTORY LISTS A RONALD K. PIERCE, FISHERMAN.

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

INVESTIGATION MARATHON, FLA., DETERMINED RONALD K. PIERCE, AGE FORTYFIVE, IS AN INDIGENT LOBSTER FISHERMAN WHO IS MARRIED, HAS FIVE CHILDREN AND WHO SUPPLEMENTS HIS FISHING INCOME BY WORKING PARTTIME AS A MECHANIC. PIERCE IS A LIFELONG RESIDENT OF MARATHON, FLA., WHO SELDOM LEAVES THE FLORIDA KEYS. PIERCE DOES NOT HOLD A PILOT'S LICENSE HAS NO INTEREST IN ANY AIRPORT AND DOES NOT OWN A PLANE. PIERCE HAS NEVER BEEN A BUILDER AND HAS HAD NO AFFILIATIONS IN CUBA, DOES NOT KNOW EDDIE WILBURN AND HAS NEVER BEEN A MEMBER OF ANY KKK GROUP.

INVESTIGATION AT PAHOKEE AND BELLE GLADE, FLA., INDICATES THAT A WILLIAM L. PIERCE, WHITE MALE, AGE FIFTYEIGHT, EMPLOYED AT BELLE GLADE AS A WELDER AT TRUE FLOW, INC., FORMERLY OWNED SOME CATTLE AND A *LOW* CLASS MIGRANT LABORER BOARDING HOUSE WHICH HE WAS FORCED TO GIVE UP IN *NINE*TEEN SIXTYSEVEN FOR NONPAYMENT OF TAXES. DOES NOT OWN A PLANE AND DOES NOT FLY. PIERCE IS NOT RELATED TO OR ACQUAINTED WITH EDDIE WILBURN AND IS NOT AFFILIATED WITH ANY KKK ORGANIZATION. PIERCE HAD BEEN WEALTHY FOR A SHORT TIME OVER TWENTY YEARS AGO WHEN HE INVENTED A HEMP ROPE MANUFACTURING MACHINE WHICH WAS LATER BOUGHT BY BATISTA SUPPORTERS IN CUBA. NO OTHER WILLIAM L. PIERCE'S LOCATED IN THE PAHOKEE OR BELLE GLADE AREA.

ND PAGE THREE E

PAGE FOUR

INVESTIGATION AT OKEECHOBEE, FLA., INDICATES THAT LELAND CLIFFORD PEARCE, W/M, AGE FIFTY, OWNS PROPERTY AND SEVERAL COTTAGES AND IS A LAND DEVELOPER IN THE BUCKHEAD RIDGE SECTION OF OKEECHOBEE. PEARCE WAS A FORMER CATTLE OWNER IN THE OKEECHOBEE AREA AND SOLD CATTLE TO CUBA AND SOUTH AMERICA IN NINETEEN FIFTYSIX. PEARCE DOES NOT OWN A PRIVATE PLANE AND DOES NOT FLY. HE IS NOT ACQUAINTED WITH JIM GARRISON AND IS NOT RELATED TO EDDIE WILBURN. PEARCE DOES NOT KNOW ANYONE NAMED BEN THOMPSON AND IS NOT A MEMBER OF THE KKK. PEARCE WAS IN THE OKEECHOBEE AREA ON APRIL THREE - TEN, NINETEEN SIXTYEIGHT. PEARCE VIEWED PHOTOS OF JAMES EARL RAY AND WAS UNABLE TO IDENTIFY.

PEARCE OF OPINION THAT JOHN THOMAS BOWLES AN ACTIVE KKK MEMBER IN THE UNITED KLANS OF AMERICA (UKA), OKEECHOBEE, FLA., SUBJECT OF MIAMI FILES ONE FIVE SEVEN - ONE NINE ONE ZERO AND ONE SEVEN THREE - ONE SEVEN TWO AND BUREAU FILES ONE FIVE SEVEN - SEVEN FOUR ONE SEVEN AND ONE SEVEN THREE - FOUR FIVE EIGHT NINE, COULD POSSIBLY HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN CAPTIONED MATTER. BOWLES DESCRIBED AS W/M, DOB [REDACTED], AT KINERVILLE, FLA., HEIGHT FIVE FT. TEN IN., WEIGHT ONE THREE EIGHT LBS., FBI NO. THREE TWO ONE - NINE TWO EIGHT - C. PEARCE BELIEVES BOWLES MAY BE INVOLVED BECAUSE BOWLES'S PRIVATE PLANE GONE FROM OKEECHOBEE AREA AT INTERVALS FROM APRIL FOUR TO APRIL EIGHT, LAST.

END PAGE FOUR

MM 44-1854

PAGE FIVE

BOWLES INTERVIEWED AND STATED HE WAS AT CALLAHAN DENTAL LABORATORY, ARMENIA AVE., TAMPA, FLA., TEL NO. NINE THREE TWO - THREE ZERO EIGHT FIVE, ONE APRIL THIRD, FORTH, AND SIXTH, LAST, HAVING DENTURE WORK DONE. THIS STORY NOT VERIFIED BY INTERVIEWS WITH HIS WIFE AND BROTHER-IN-LAW. BOWLES STATES HE IS IN SYMPATHY WITH THE ASSASSIN OF KING AND WOULD LIKE TO SHAKE THE HAND OF THOSE RESPONSIBLE. BOWLES HAS PRIVATE PLANE AND FLIES REGULARLY. HE MANAGES THE RIDGE APARTMENTS, BUCKHEAD RIDGE, OKEECHOBEE, FLA., AND IS ALSO A FISHING PARTY GUIDE. BOWLES DOES NOT KNOW EDDIE WILBURN, JIM GARRISON, OR A BEN THOMPSON WHO OWNS BOATS. HE STATED HE DID NOT FLY KING'S ASSASSIN ANYWHERE AND WAS IN NO WAY INVOLVED WITH ASSASSINATION PLOT. BOWLES NOT WEALTHY. INVESTIGATION CONTINUING MIAMI.

TAMPA, INTERVIEW APPROPRIATE INDIVIDUALS AT CALLAHAN DENTAL LABORATORY TO DETERMINE SPECIFIC DATES AND TIMES JOHN BOWLES THERE FROM MARCH TWENTYEIGHT TO APRIL TWELVE, NINETEEN SIXTYEIGHT.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

CORR: PGE 5 LINE 3 WD 8 --- FOURTH

END

ALS

FBI TAMPA

X

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, Tampa (157-3231) (P)

DATE: 5/19/68

FROM : SA Robert K. Buesh

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR

Re Miami teletype to Bureau 5/18/68.

The following investigation was conducted by SA Robert K. Buesh:

Re: John Thomas Bowles

On 5/19/68 several attempts were made to telephonically contact the Callahan Dental Laboratory, Armenia Ave., Tampa, Telephone # 932-3085, as set forth in referenced communication. On each occasion there was no response and an automatic answering service indicated that Mr. Callahan was unavailable. On the last occasion, at 1¹⁵ PM, SA Buesh left his home and the office telephone number, with the request contact be made at the earliest time possible.

A check of current Kentel Co. directory and Tampa City Directories (1965-68) fail to reflect any listing for CALLAHAN DENTAL LABORATORY, Tampa.

Tampa indices negative.



(1)
RKB.

157-3231-446

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED <i>CP</i>	FILED <i>CS</i>
MAY 19 1968	
TAMPA	

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

FBI MIAMI

FBI TAMPA

847 PM URGENT 5/20/68 ALS

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861) AND MIAMI (44-1854)

FROM TAMPA 157-3231)

MURKIN

RE MIAMI TELETYPE TO BUREAU MAY EIGHTEEN SIXTYEIGHT.

RE: SUSPECT JOHN THOMAS BOWLES.

ATTEMPTS TO TELEPHONICALLY CONTACT CALLHAN DENTAL LABORATORY, TAMPA, MAY NINETEEN SIXTYEIGHT, NEGATIVE. AUTOMATIC ANSWERING SERVICE INDICATED CALLAHAN UNAVAILABLE UNTIL MAY TWENTY SIXTYEIGHT.

EDWARD CALLAHAN, CALLAHAN DENTAL LABORATORIES, ONE ZERO ZERO ONE ZERO LOCKMAN COURT, TAMPA, FURNISHED FOLLOWING ON MAY TWENTY SIXTYEIGHT. JOHN BOWLES, SIX ZERO SEVEN BUCKHEAD RIDGE, OKEECHOBEE, FLA., TELEPHONE NUMBER R A THREE FOUR ZERO THREE ONE, CONTACTED HIM IN PERSON ON MARCH TWENTYSEVEN LAST TO HAVE DENTURES MADE AND GAVE CALAHAN ONE HUNDRED DOLLAR CHECK THAT DATE AS PARTIAL PAYMENT. TWO APPOINTMENTS MADE FOR APRIL FOUR AND FIVE LAST, BOTH BOR TEN A.M., HOWEVER CALLAHAN RECALLS BOWLES MADE TWO APPEARANCES AT LAB BETWEEN MARCH TWENTYSEVEN AND APRIL FOUR, EXACT DATES UNRECALLED. DENTURE IMPRESSIONS MADE APRIL FOUR AND CALLAHAN

END PAGE ONE

157-3231-448

SEARCHED _____
INDEXED CP
SERIALIZED CP
FILED CP

PAGE TWO

TP 157-3231

ESTIMATED BOWLES LENGTH OF STAY ON APRIL FOUR AS ONE TO ONE AND ONE-HALF HOURS AND ON APRIL FIVE SIXTYEIGHT RECALLS BOWLES AT LAB SEVERAL HOURS, RECEIVED DENTURES AND PAID REMAINDER OF BILL OF TEN DOLLARS. CALLAHAN OF OPINION BOWLES FLEW HIS PRIVATE PLANE TO TAMPA FOR APPOINTMENTS AND HAD USE OF BORROWED CAR, LATE MODEL CHEVROLET. ON APRIL FIVE SIXTYEIGHT IN DISCUSSION OF KING MURDER, CALLAHAN DESCRIBED BOWLES AS ASSUMING "DIE HARD SOUTHERNER" ATTITUDE AND EXPRESSED HIMSELF AS BEING GLAD MURDER OCCURRED. WITHIN WEEK'S PERIOD FOLLOWING APRIL FIVE APPOINTMENT, BOWLES REAPPEARED TO HAVE ADJUSTMENT MADE TO DENTURES. CALLAHAN'S RECORDS REFLECT BOWLES FURNISHED LOCAL TAMPA TELEPHONE NUMBER TWO THREE SIX - ONE THREE TWO ONE. ALSO RECALLS ON TWO OCCASIONS BOWLES WAS ACCOMPANIED BY HIS WIFE, NAME UNKNOWN, DESCRIBED W/F, LATE THIRTY'S FIVE FT. FOUR IN., ONE THIRTY LBS, DARK HAIR.

RUTH VANDENBERG, VANDENBURG AIRPORT, RTE, TWO BOX NINE TWO, ON MAY TWENTY SIXTYEIGHT ADVISED AS FOLLOWS: AVAILABLE RECORDS REFLECT JOHN BOWLES RENTED HANGAR SPACE THIRTYSEVEN SEPTEMBER AND TEN DAY PERIOD OCTOBER SIXTYSEVEN. RECALLS BOWLES PLANE AS J-THREE CUB, TWO PASSENGER, COLOR UNRECALLED, BELIEVED PURCHASED FROM UNKNOWN INDIVIDUAL IN TAMPA AREA. NO RECORDS MAINTAINED RE ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES UNLESS OVERNIGHT PARKING OF PLANE INVOLVED AND NO BLIGATION OR REQUIREMENT EXISTS TO FILE FLIGHT PLANS.

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

TP 157-3231

VANDENBERG LOCATED ON GAS TICKET RECEIPT IN NAME OF BOWLES DATED APRIL NINE SIXTYEIGHT FOR SIX POINT THREE GALLONS AND INDICATED POSSIBILITY BOWLES MAY HAVE MADE GAS PURCHASES EARLIER IN APRIL AND RECEIPT ONLY MADE OUT TO CASH. WITHOUT CERTAINTY OF DATES SHE RECALLED ONE OF BOWLES' ARRIVALS WHEN HE USED OFFICE PHONE TO CALL A RELATIVE, NAME UNRECALLED, TO PICK HIM UP AT AIRPORT AND COMMENTED HE HAD DENTIST APPOINTMENT. VANDENBERG RECALLS ON OCCASION WHEN BOWLES ACCOMPANIED BY FEMALE WHO SHE TOOK FOR GRANTED WAS HIS WIFE, DESCRIBED W/F, DARK HAIR, FIVE FT. - FIVE FT. TWO IN., MID THIRTY'S.

TELEPHONE NUMBER TWO THREE SIX - ONE THREE TWO ONE LISTED TO CHARLIE GRIZZAFFE, THREE THREE W. CREST, TAMPA.

TOM GRIZZAFFE ADVISED MAY TWENTY SIXTYEIGHT PARENTS PRESENTLY AT LAKE OKEECHOBEE, FLA. AND STAYING AT PROPERTY OWNED BY THEM, BUCKHEAD RIDGE APARTMENTS, RA OR RO THREE FOUR ZERO THREE ONE.

MIAMI INTERVIEW CHARLIE GRIZZAFFE AND WIFE FOR ACTUAL LENGTH OF TIMES BOWLES KNOWN TO BE AT TAMPA ON PERTINENT DATES.

AIRMAIL COPIES LOS ANGELES AND MEMPHIS.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

PJL

FBI MIAMI

TU CLRP

CAB, FBI Wash DC
cc Dist 5/20/68
M

F B I

Date:

5/20/68

Transmit the following in _____

Plaintext

(Type in plaintext or code)

Via _____

Teletype

Urgent

(Priority)

To - Director & Miami

FROM - Tampa (157-3231) (P)

MURKIN. CR

Re Miami teletype to Bureau 5/18/68

Re suspect John Thomas Bowles

Attempts to telephonically contact Callahan Dental Laboratory, Tampa, 5/19/68, negative. Automatic answering service indicated Callahan unavailable until 5/20/68.

Edward Callahan, Callahan Dental Laboratories, 10010 Lockman Court, Tampa, furnished following on 5/20/68.

JOHN BOWLES, 607 Buckhead Ridge, Okuchobee, Fla. ^{March 27 last} telephone # RA 34031 contacted him in person on ~~3/27/68~~

to have dentures made and gave Callahan \$100 check

that date as partial payment. ~~Callahan~~ Two appointments ^{april four and five last} made for ~~4/4 and 4/5/68~~, both for 10⁰⁰ am however

157-3231-448

Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

SEARCHED _____

INDEXED _____

SERIALIZED _____

FILED _____

802

Sent

847

M

Per

Callahan recalls Bowles made two appearances at lab between 3/27 and 4/4, exact dates unrecalled.

Denture impressions made ^{april 4} ~~4/4/68~~ and Callahan estimated

Bowles length of stay ^{on april 4} as 1-1½ hours and on 4/5/68
 received dentures + paid remainder of bill of \$10.00
 recalls Bowles at lab several hours, Callahan of opinion

Bowles flew his private plane to Tampa for appointments
 and had use of borrowed car, late model Chevrolet.

On 4/5/68 in discussion of King murder, Callahan described

Bowles as assuming "die hard southerner" attitude and

expressed himself as being glad murder occurred. Within

^{april five} week's period following ~~last~~ appointment, Bowles reappeared

to have adjustment made to dentures. Callahan's records

reflect Bowles furnished local Tampa telephone #

236-1321. Also recalls on ~~the~~^{two} occasions Bowles was accompanied by his wife, name unknown, described white, female, late 30's, 5'4", 130, dark hair.

Ruth Vandenberg, Vandenberg Airport Rte 2 Box 92 on 5/20/68 advised as follows: Available records reflect Town Bowles rented hangar space #37 Sept and 10 day period Oct 1967. Recalls Bowles plane as T-3 Cub, 2 passenger, color unrecalled, believed purchased from unknown individual in Tampa area. No records maintained re arrivals and departures unless overnight parking of plane involved and no obligation or requirement exists to file flight plans. Vandenberg located one gas ticket receipt in name of Bowles dated 4/29/68 for 6.3 gals and

indicated possibility Bowles may have made gas purchases earlier in April and receipt only made out to cash. Without certainty of dates she recalled one of Bowles' arrivals when he used office phone to call a relative, name unrecalled to pick him up at airport and commented he had dentist appointment. Vandenberg recalls one occasion when Bowles accompanied by female who she took for granted was his wife, described white female, dark hair, 5'-5'2", mid-30's.

Telephone # 236-1321 listed to CHARLIE GRIZZAFFE,
334 W. Crest, Tampa.

TOM GRIZZAFFE advised 5/20/68 parents presently at Lake Okeechobee Fla and staying at property owned

by them, Buckhead Ridge Apts, RA or RD 34031.

Miami interview ~~was~~ Charlie Krizzaffe and
wife for actual length of time Bowles known to be at
~~Resident~~
Tampa in ~~present~~ dates.

Air mail copies Los Angeles and Memphis.

Armed & Dangerous.

5/21/68

PLAINTEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861)
FROM MIAMI (44-1854)

MURKIN. CIVIL RIGHTS.

RE MIAMI TEL TO BUREAU MAY EIGHTEEN, AND TAMPA TEL
TO BUREAU MAY TWENTY, SIXTYEIGHT.

RE: SUSPECT JOHN THOMAS BOWLES

INVESTIGATION AT OKEECHOBEE, FLA. REFLECTS THAT AIRPLANE
OWNED BY BOWLES IS A J DASH THREE, TWO PASSENGER CUB WITH
AN EIGHTYFIVE HORSE POWER MOTOR CAPABLE OF TOP SPEEDS AT
SEVENTYFIVE TO EIGHTY MPH. AIRPLANE HAS APPROXIMATE THIRTEEN
GALLON CAPACITY AND BURNS APPROXIMATELY FIVE GALLONS PER HOUR.
AIRPLANE HAS NO LIGHTS, RADIO OR NAVIGATIONAL EQUIPMENT AND
LANDING FIELD UTILIZED HAS NO LIGHTING FACILITIES. PEOPLE
KNOWLEDGEABLE OF BOWLES' ACTIVITIES OF OPINION BOWLES HAS
NOT FLOWN ANY FURTHER THAN FROM OKEECHOBEE TO TAMPA, A
DISTANCE OF ONE HUNDRED TWENTYFIVE MILES.

① - Tampa (Info)(AM)
1 - Memphis (44-1987)(Info)(AM)
1 - Miami
RT:vc
(3)

157-3231-448 A

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.. <i>h</i>	FILED.....
MAY 22 1968	
FBI — TAMPA	

[Handwritten signatures and initials over the stamp]

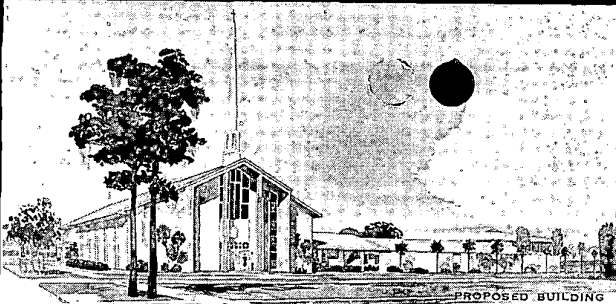
MM 44-1854

PAGE TWO

BOWLES' ESTRANGED WIFE ADVISED SHE CHECKED ON HIS ACTIVITIES FOR NIGHT OF APRIL FOUR, SIXTYEIGHT, AND ASCERTAINED HE WAS IN OKEECHOBEE.

IN VIEW OF ABOVE, BOWLES IS BEING ELIMINATED AS A SUSPECT IN THIS MATTER.

TAMPA AND MEMPHIS ADVISED BY AM.



Kenton C. Hofmeister, Pastor
HOME PHONE: 347-6463

Azalea Baptist Church

7929 Country Club Road North
St. Petersburg, Florida 33710
TELEPHONE 342-6121

Mr. Santiano
F.B.I.
Tampa, Fla.

Dear Mr. Santiano:

Recently, in the wake of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, I preached a sermon to the effect that the nation needed white Christian leaders to take King's place. I pointed to his non-violent approach to the problems that plague our country and indicated that this was commendable.

Following the service, a church member came up to me and tearfully exclaimed: "Didn't you know he was a communist?" I replied that I did not and added that it was highly improbable. Since then I have heard this type of remark several times and personally feel that it is a slanderous statement; however, I have no means of refuting it.

Knowing of your activities in this area, I am turning to you for some help. Could you give me some kind of statement concerning Dr. King and these communism charges? Local F.B.I. office suggested that I contact you since the local agent was reluctant to make any type of public statement. Again, thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

Kenton C. Hofmeister
Kenton C. Hofmeister

157-3231-449

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
MAY 1 1968	
FBI - TAMPA	

2. *Adh + let me see how much before*

Post Office Box 3301
Tampa, Florida 33601
May 20, 1968

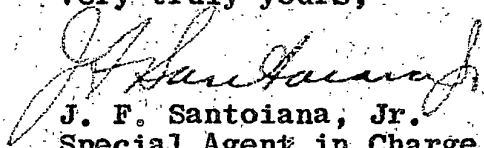
Reverend Kenton C. Hofmeister
Pastor, Azalea Baptist Church
7929 Country Club Road North
St. Petersburg, Florida 33710

Dear Reverend Hofmeister:

Your recent letter requesting information concerning the late Dr. Martin Luther King has been received. I am sorry to advise you that in view of the fact that the files of this Bureau are confidential by law, that I am unable to furnish you the information you seek.

You should not, however, interpret the above statement as an indication that this Bureau does or does not have information on the subject matter.

Very truly yours,


J. F. Santoiana, Jr.
Special Agent in Charge

1 - Addressee
② - Tampa (157-3231)
LEB:cj
(2) *ej*

SEARCHED _____
INDEXED _____
SERIALIZED *ag*
FILED *ag*

157-3231-450

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, TAMPA (157-3231)

DATE: 5/22/68

FROM : SA A. LEWIS BARNETT

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Rememorandum of Supervisor #4, 5/15/68.

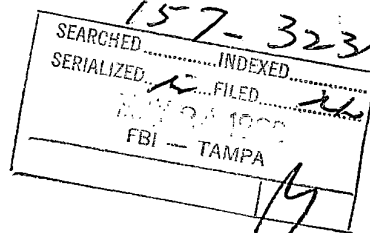
Rememo requested that photographs of JAMES EARL RAY be exhibited to employees of the First National Bank of Bonita Springs inasmuch as a bank burglary occurring at that bank has not been solved.

On 5/20/68, SA BARNETT exhibited a photograph of RAY to the following persons at above mentioned bank. None could ever recall having seen subject(RAY) except through photographs in the newspapers and television:

NORMAN E. SWAIN, BRUCE FORESTER, JOE HOGUE, ALLEN HERTZOG, BURT GREISER, DAVE EDGE, CINDY BREMBRY, LINDA HORNE, BLANCHE EMMONS and MONICA MORGAN.

The Lee County SO and Fort Myers PD are being contacted to ask that the photograph of RAY be exhibited during their investigations in unsolved robberies.

ALB:alb
(1)



5010-108

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (157-3231)

DATE: 5-23-68

ATT: SA LABADIE

FROM : SA THOMAS C. ALLEN (P)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Request of SRA HAFLEY, 4-15-68, to contact dancing schools as follows:

DICK RICCARDO, Academy of Dance, 1276 Minnesota Ave., Winter Park, Fla., and ALICE ANN CRIBBLE, Alice Ann Dance Studio, 724 N. Hastings, Orlando, Fla., advised on 4-16-68 after viewing the photograph of subject that they could not identify him but would be on the lookout for him.

(1)

TCA:

157-3231-452
157-3231-457

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
FBI - TAMPA	

[Handwritten signature/initials over stamp]

F B I

Date: May 21, 1968

Transmit the following in _____

(Type in plaintext or code)

Via Airtel _____

(Priority)

To: All SACs
LEGATS, Mexico City
Ottawa

[Signature]
From: Director, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN

For your information and investigative assistance, subject James Earl Ray has been known to consort with prostitutes and "street bums." A photograph of subject was obtained from a prostitute in Mexico. This photograph showing subject wearing sunglasses was previously forwarded to your office.

This should be borne in mind in your daily contact with informants, officers of vice squads and prostitutes in covering leads in connection with this and other cases.

Armed and dangerous.

157-3231-453

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED..... <i>[Signature]</i>
MAY 21 1968	
FBI - TAMPA	

Labadie | *98*

Sent Via _____

M.

Per _____

5/22/68

Airtel

To: SACs, Jacksonville
Little Rock (157-1215)
Tampa

From: Director, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN

Subject as James Earl Ray and his associate Walter Terry Rife were arrested on March 23, 1965, by the Missouri State Highway Patrol at Hannibal, Missouri, and were charged with cashing stolen U. S. Postal Money Orders. Ray and Rife were subsequently incarcerated at the United States Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas on these charges.

Review of these money orders indicates they were all cashed during the month of March, 1965, and included in the cities where they were cashed are Hot Springs, Arkansas; St. Petersburg, Daytona Beach, Tampa and Tallahassee, Florida.

The Little Rock Office at Hot Springs; the Tampa Office at St. Petersburg and Tampa; and Jacksonville Office at Daytona Beach and Tallahassee bear in mind that subject, as a result of cashing these stolen U. S. Postal Money Orders, is somewhat acquainted with these places and it is possible that subject could return to same.

Armed and dangerous.

1 - SAC, Memphis (44-1987)

157-3231-454

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
MAY 28 1968	
FBI - TAMPA	

3. Kubacki
See me

FBI

Date: 5/21/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL URGENT
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
 FROM: SAC, SAN ANTONIO (44-1242) (P)
 RE: MURKIN
 CR

Re Butel 4/25/68, to El Paso, et al, advising that each office should determine from the telephone company the long distance calls placed at each public telephone on U. S. Highway 90 and Interstate Highway 10 over which subject and CHARLES STEIN allegedly traveled 12/15-17/67. Subject reportedly made eight long distance telephone calls while in Texas.

Set forth by Field Division are some of the telephone calls made from the San Antonio Division, 12/15-17/67, which were obtained from available Southwestern Bell Telephone Company records. The various Field Divisions will determine from the subscriber or person receiving the call the identity of the caller. If the caller was JAMES EARL RAY, aka, obtain all available information. Further, determine if the subscriber or the person receiving the call has any knowledge of JAMES EARL RAY.

Unless information is developed during the course of the investigation requested above which pertains to the San Antonio Division, it is not necessary to advise the San Antonio Division of the results.

3 - Bureau	2 - Memphis (44-1987)
3 - Birmingham	3 - Mobile
7 - Dallas	2 - Richmond
3 - El Paso	2 - Sacramento
2 - Kansas City	② - Tampa
2 - Knoxville	6 - San Antonio

JMK/sms (37)

Approved: JMK
 Special Agent in Charge

Sent 12

157-3231-455

SEARCHED ☒	INDEXED ☒
SERIALIZED ☒	FILED ☒
MAY 24 1968	
FBI - TAMPA	

Winter Haven lead
Camer

SA 44-1242

<u>DATE</u>	<u>CALLING NUMBER</u>	<u>NUMBER CALLED</u>	<u>PLACE AND/OR PERSON CALLED</u>
<u>BIRMINGHAM</u>			
12/15/67	223-0232	205-324-8051	Birmingham, Alabama
12/17/67	661-9063	205-734-7304	Cullman, Alabama
12/16/67	674-9761	205-881-2057	Huntsville, Ala.
<u>DALLAS</u>			
12/15/67	432-9020	817-283-1546	Eulless-Hurst, Texas
12/15/67	875-9029	817-294-5422	Burleson, Texas
12/15/67	432-9224	817-626-5763	Fort Worth, Texas
12/17/67	223-7735	817-834-4482	Fort Worth, Texas
12/17/67	278-9013	915-396-4655	Menard, Texas
12/15/67	223-7892	915-399-0113	Luther, Texas
12/15/67	223-8000	915-653-9748	San Angelo, Texas
12/16/67	875-9030	915-692-0695	Abilene, Texas
<u>EL PASO</u>			
12/16/67	278-9093	915-598-2010	El Paso, Texas
12/17/67	674-9761	915-828-1819	Guadalupe Peak, Tex.
12/17/67	278-9041	915-837-4486	Alpine, Texas
<u>KANSAS CITY</u>			
12/17/67	674-9104	816-231-2992	Kansas City, Missouri From SAM DANIEL

SA 44-1242

<u>DATE</u>	<u>CALLING NUMBER</u>	<u>NUMBER CALLED</u>	<u>PLACE AND/OR PERSON CALLED</u>
<u>KNOXVILLE</u>			
12/17/67	674-9914	615-588-2564	Knoxville, Tenn.
<u>MEMPHIS</u>			
12/16/67	379-9953	615-896-2776	Murfreesboro, Tenn. to BETTY STANLEY
<u>MOBILE</u>			
12/16/67	674-9693	205-368-2394	Atmore, Alabama
12/17/67	674-9603	205-471-3762	Mobile, Alabama
12/16/67	661-9063	205-943-5784	Foley, Alabama
<u>RICHMOND</u>			
12/17/67	674-9724	703-356-4286	McLean, Virginia
12/17/67	674-9724	703-356-4286	McLean, Virginia
<u>SACRAMENTO</u>			
12/17/67	538-9598	209-251-1137	Fresno, California
12/17/67	563-9747	209-834-3541	Fowler, California
<u>TAMPA</u>			
12/17/67	674-9761	813-294-5795	Winter Haven, Fla.
<u>SAN ANTONIO</u>			
12/16/67	278-9086	817-546-3241	Chilton, Texas
12/15/67	674-9915	817-753-3090	Waco, Texas

*James Pendergast
414 Ave E. S. E.*

SA 44-1242

<u>DATE</u>	<u>CALLING NUMBER</u>	<u>NUMBER CALLED</u>	<u>PLACE AND/OR PERSON CALLED</u>
<u>SAN ANTONIO</u>			
12/15/67	278-9088	817-754-8205	Waco, Texas
12/17/67	432-9277	817-634-5911	Killeen, Texas
12/16/67	432-9665	915-452-5885	Richland Springs, Texas
12/17/67	432-9665	915-452-5885	Richland Springs, Texas.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

DECODED COPY

☒ Radio☐ Teletype

URGENT MAY 21, 1968
TO ALL FIELD DIVISIONS
FROM DIRECTOR

MURKIN

INASMUCH AS RAY IS KNOWN TO STAY AT "FLOPHOUSES" AND LOWER CLASS ROOMING HOUSES, ALL OFFICES WILL FURNISH COPY OF IDENTIFICATION ORDER REGARDING RAY TO SALVATION ARMY AND OTHER CHARITABLE TYPE MISSIONS.

ALL OFFICES COVERING STATE CAPITALS, IF NOT ALREADY DONE, WILL AT DRIVERS LICENSE BUREAU CHECK ALL DRIVERS LICENSES AND APPLICATIONS FOR MONTHS OF APRIL AND MAY, 1968 CONCERNING ALL MALE CAUCASIANS OVER THIRTY YEARS OF AGE AND UNDER FIFTYFIVE YEARS OF AGE, IN VIEW OF FACT IT IS POSSIBLE SUBJECT SECURED DRIVERS LICENSE USING ANOTHER NAME OTHER THAN ALIASES KNOWN. AS RESULT OF VIEWING THESE APPLICATIONS YOU SHOULD CONDUCT APPROPRIATE INVESTIGATION TO DETERMINE IF ANY SUCH INDIVIDUAL IDENTICAL WITH SUBJECT.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

RECEIVED 2:20PM/22ND

DECODED RJR

157-3231-456

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 22 1968	
FBI - ALABAMA	

Labadie SM

in male at Hqs

If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in order to protect the Bureau's cryptographic systems.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, TAMPA (157-3231)

DATE: 5/22/68

FROM : SUPVR. #4

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR
(OO:ME)

The Bureau has requested that in view of the fact that JAMES EARL RAY, the subject of this case, is known to have stayed in "flophouses" and lower class rooming houses, that we furnish a copy of IO regarding RAY to Salvation Army and other charitable-type missions.

Immediately, SRAs receiving a copy of this memo, will assign Agents in their territory to contact Salvation Army and other charitable-type missions and furnish the IO as requested by the Bureau. Extra copies of the IO for this purpose have been furnished the RAs.

SA LABADIE will handle same in headquarters city.

SAs OYLER and KLONOWSKI will handle for road trip.

- 9 - Tampa
- 1 - SRA, Clearwater
- 1 - SRA, Cocoa
- 1 - SRA, Ft. Myers
- 1 - SRA, Lakeland
- 1 - SRA, Orlando
- 1 - SRA, St. Petersburg
- 1 - SRA, Sarasota

LEB:cj

(9)

157-3231-457

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
MAY 22 1968	
FBI - TAMPA	

*Rogd
Sup lead*



5010-108

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (157-3231)(P)

DATE: 5/31/68

FROM : SA GORDON W. TINDLE

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR
(OO:ME)

Re memo of Supvr. #4 dated 5/22/68.

On 5/30/68, Mrs. EVELYN MATTHES, Secty. to Maj. SIDNEY LYNCH, Commander, Salvation Army, 11 5 ~~West~~ East Central Ave. Orlando, Fla. was furnished with copies of IO #4182. She said that Orlando had the only Mission in the Seminole, Orange, Osceola Co. area but she would send copies to service officers of SA in Sanford and Kissimmee, Fla.

She advised the only other charitable type missions in the area is the Orlando Union Rescue Mission at 410 West Central Ave. Orlando, Fla.

On 5/31/68, Rev. JOHN W. HORAN, Director, Orlando Union Rescue Mission-advised he is on the mailing list of the FBI to receive IO's. He was given copies of IO #4182.

He advised he knew of no other charitable type missions in the area.

file w/

157-3231-457A

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 1 1968	
FBI - TAMPA	

Leah W. Doyle



(2)
GWT

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, TAMPA (157-3231)(S.457)

DATE: 5/29/68.

FROM : SA A. LEWIS BARNETT

SUBJECT: MURKIN
CR
(OO:ME)

Rememo of Supervisor #4, 5/22/68.

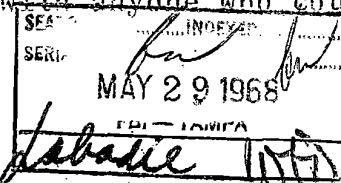
At Fort Myers, Fla.

The following investigation was conducted by SA A. LEWIS BARNETT on 5/28/68:

MR. DURWOOD SIPPOLA, Local Officer, Salvation Army, 2100 Jackson Street, advised that his organization has no facilities for housing indigents in Fort Myers. He stated in rare and needy cases usually involving families, the Salvation Army will arrange overnight lodging in hotels or motels. MR. SIPPOLA reviewed his records for the past 18 months and advised that they contained no names similar to JAMES EARL RAY or his aliases. He viewed the photograph of RAY and stated that RAY did not appear familiar to him. MR. SIPPOLA was furnished a copy of the Identification Order concerning RAY and stated he would compare the photograph and description with any white males seeking assistance from the Salvation Army.

MR. RAUL JORDAN, Store Manager, St. Vincent de Paul, 2219 Main Street, advised that occasionally the charitable organization of St. Vincent de Paul, operated by the Catholic Church, offers assistance to needy individuals. He stated that in rare instances this assistance takes the form of providing lodging in public hotels or motels. MR. JORDAN stated that his records do not indicate that the organization has ever assisted anyone by the name of RAY or any of his aliases. He stated the photograph of RAY did not remind him of anyone with whom he had ever come in contact. MR. JORDAN was furnished an Identification Order concerning RAY and requested to immediately advise the FBI should he come in contact with anyone who could possibly be identical with RAY.

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